

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated November 29, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this response, claims 1-9, 11-12 and 15-22 are pending. Claim 1 is independent. Claim 1 has been hereby amended. Claims 10, 13 and 14 have been canceled. Claims 15-22 are withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoi (U.S. Patent No. 6,331,384, hereinafter "Satoi '384") and Fairbairn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,176,667, hereinafter "Fairbairn '667").

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-14 and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

While not conceding to the Examiner's rejection, but to only advance prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 10 and 13. Also, claim 14 as noted in page 7 of the Office Action has been cancelled. By way of this amendment, the claimed invention is not obvious over the applied art for at least the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to a device usable for forming an alignment layer of a display apparatus, the device comprising a printing part to print an alignment layer on a substrate; a drying part positioned above the printing part to dry the alignment layer printed on

the substrate; and a transferring part to transfer the substrate including a transfer robot to transfer the substrate from the printing part to the drying part by elevating the substrate, wherein the drying part is positioned directly and vertically above the printing part, as recited in claim 1.

In particular, the claimed invention has the features that the drying part is positioned directly and vertically above the printing part. In other words, one unit (drying part) is disposed over the other unit (printing part) performing a distinct process from a process of the one. By this structural combination of device, the present invention has an effect of preventing particles from falling on the substrate in a printing part, because the drying part over the printing part makes a rising current of air due to the heat of the drying part. Also, the claimed invention discloses “a transfer robot to transfer the substrate from the printing part to the drying part by elevating the substrate” as recited in claim 1.

On the other hand, Satoi '384 relates to an apparatus for manufacturing a color filter by coloring a color filter substrate, which includes a partitioning unit for partitioning the substrate into portions that are to be colored and portions that are not to be colored, a coloring unit for coloring the portions to be colored by discharging an ink onto these portions from an inkjet head, and a drying unit for drying the ink discharged by the coloring unit.

However, Satoi '384 fails to disclose or teach the claimed features. Specifically, Satoi '384 remains silent about at least a combination of elements, including, for example, “the drying part is positioned directly and vertically above the printing part” and “a transfer robot to transfer the substrate from the printing part to the drying part by elevating the substrate.”

With regard to the Examiner's rejection in view of Fairbairn '667, this reference also fails to disclose the features that the drying part is positioned directly and vertically above the printing

part and a transfer robot to transfer the substrate from the printing part to the drying part by elevating the substrate. Therefore, Fairbairn '667 fails to make up for the deficiencies of Satoi '384.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Satoi '384, and Fairbairn '667, analyzed singly or in combination do not teach at least the combined features of independent claim 1, which is allowable over the applied art.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that presently pending claims define the present invention over the applied art. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

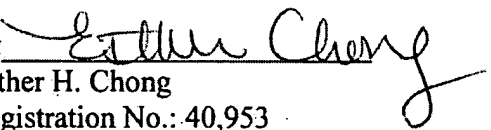
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong, Reg. No. 40,953 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 29, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Esther H. Chong
Registration No.: 40,953
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant